

SOME BEAUTIES NATURAL AND SKETCHES HISTORICAL OF AN OLD NEW
ENGLAND TOWN.BY C. TERRY KNIGHT.

The wayfarer down the valley of "New England's noblest river," after passing the rugged twins, Tom and Holyoke, will traverse no fairer or more picturesque landscape, none better displaying both the strength and beauty of old New England, than that which opens before him soon after entering the borders of that old historic state which bears the river's name.

After crossing on the main road from Springfield to Hartford the stream called Freshwater, which falls into the Connecticut after furnishing power for the Hartford Carpet Company's mills at Thompsonville on our right, we commence at once a long and steady ascent. The situation is peculiar. The change, after having come out so recently from the trimmed and shady levels of Longmeadow's sequestered, charmingly reposeful street, is all the more delightful by contrast. Our way lies over a long high hill, rising directly into the highest land in the town of Enfield, yet little more than half a mile from the river's bed some 150 feet below. Halfway up this ascent we may glance backward and see Holyoke rising directly above our track. If our sight be good and air and light favorable we shall discern its white Summit House, 25 miles away. Turning to the northwest as we approach the summit we look down upon the falls and the busy miniature city we have just passed. Looking beyond these, over the river, and above the sheltered homes scattered on the rich slopes above its brink to the horizon hills and following their green outline against the blue south, we may discern, through an interval opposite us in the nearer range, the distant hills bordering Litchfield County, twenty or more miles to the west.

Prominent on the height of the hill we have reached, 'mid pleasant surroundings of climbing vine and sheltering elm and shaven lawn, stands the substantial

and elegant home and sanitarium of Dr. Edwin S. Vail. A few steps further, on the crown of this lovely hill, we come to the old cemetery, now recently enclosed on the front by strong and artistic wire fence supported by granite posts, marking the progress of the age, where, little more than a century ago, a white-birch hedge stood, through which the sand drifted. The town voted to decorate the graves of soldiers of the Revolution as well as those of the late civil contest this year. Many of the graves marked by flag are of the former class. And flags so placed on Memorial Day are furnishing visible testimony in support of the truth of Washington's own avowal, after the great struggle was over, that "if all the states had done their duty as well as the little State of Connecticut, the war would have been ended long ago." Here is one but a few yards from the entrance south. Close



AT FRESHWATER.

beside it is another grave, unmarked, where lies, beneath broken but partly upright headstone, a soldier of the old Colonial strife at Louisburg, 1757-8.

Let us linger here for a little, among some graves that tell of a past that is still linked so vitally with the life of to-day. Below yonder heavy stone table—now moss-grown and sinking to an angle with the horizon—rests the great-grandfather of our own General Alfred H. Terry, and also of the latter's cousin, Rose Terry Cooke, and Col. Nathaniel Terry.

News of the fight at Lexington, 19th April, 1775, reached Enfield by mounted messenger the Sunday following. The people were in their "meeting-house." "A drum being procured, the drummer marched around the meeting-house beating the long roll furiously." The meeting suddenly came to an end, and early the next day 74 men commenced their march for Boston, Major, afterwards Colonel, Nathaniel Terry being superior officer and about 45 years of age at that time. The population of Enfield was then but about 1,400.

Colonel Terry's grandfather, Samuel Terry, and ancestor of all the Enfield Terrys, was one of the first settlers of the town, one of the first selectmen chosen



HOME OF DR. EDWIN S. VAIL.

after its formation, prominent and active in both church and state. A little back from the center of the cemetery, at a spot marked by a shapely monument recently erected, is the resting place of Col. Asaph Terry. A noteworthy fact concerning



THE COL. HAZARD PLACE.

the sleeper here is, that although born 140 years ago, and a grown-up man with Washington's army when defeated on Long Island, August, 1776, he had a son present at the decoration of his soldier-father's grave, with others, on Memorial



MRS. S. C. REYNOLDS' HOME.

Day of the present year, and that son not an old man — not yet 66 — and more than a half century younger than his oldest half brother. This case, though not exactly parallel to that of Mrs. Angeline Avery, a Connecticut Daughter of the



THE ORRIN THOMPSON PLACE.

Revolution, is perhaps as remarkable in its way, if we consider that the subject of it was born ten to eleven years before Mrs. Avery's father, and enlisted five years before. He was a man of great physical strength; there is a reminder of the struggles and sorrows to which men of those days were born, as well as the courage and fortitude with which they were met, when we are told that, later in the war, he walked from New London to Enfield, a distance of nearly sixty miles, in one day, carrying the effects of his deceased and younger soldier brother Levi in a package of great weight upon his back. He was a Colonel of militia in Enfield after the Revolutionary war, and died there in his eighty-third year, having had a second family of four children after he had attained his sixty-sixth year.



THE TOWN HALL.

A few yards to the front of this latter monument, further south, was laid, just two hundred years ago, Isaac Morgin (Morgan), after the fashion of spelling the



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

name in those days. Tradition makes this the first burial here, and Isaac Morgan was one of the first selectmen of the town.

To one who should to-day look abroad from various points of this eminence against the falls upon a surface diversified for rarest scenic beauty, especially when taken in connection with its natural counterparts, the island, the river, the busy villages that touch its brink, the embowered homes, and spires and woods and enduring hills that frame the picture on either side, a question might naturally arise, why had this locality remained unsettled until some fifty years later than places but a few miles distant on the rich alluvial meadows above and below? There seems to be but one answer. These higher lands adjacent the falls were



ENFIELD STREET.

covered with heavy forest, while the alluvial tracts had long been cultivated by the aborigines and offered means for immediate subsistence.

Land including this portion opposite the falls was, however, granted to the town of Springfield as early as 1648. The first effectual attempt to settle there was not made until 1678, although grants had been made to a few individuals in 1674, and a saw-mill had been erected at Freshwater by Major Pyncheon, which was burned by the Indians in 1675.

The area now included in the town of Enfield was originally supposed to belong to the Colony of Massachusetts, and was claimed by that colony as falling within their jurisdiction by virtue of the line run by their surveyors, Woodward and Saffrey, and was attached to and made a portion of the town of Springfield. August 4, 1679, the town of Springfield, at a town meeting, authorized the settlement of a plantation at Freshwater River, and appointed a committee consisting of "John Pyncheon, Samuel Marshfield, Thomas Stebbins, Sen'r, Jonathan Burt,

and Benjamin Parsons to grant out the land to persons there to inhabit, and to order and act all matters so that the place may become a town of itself."

The first actual settlers were John Pease and his sons, John and Robert, from Salem, Mass. Their home lots were allowed to be two or three rods wider than the others for the reason that they were the first settlers.

In the course of the season of 1680 there followed Simeon Booth, Jno. Burroughs, Simeon Rumril, Daniel Collins, Jno. Kibbe, Samuel Terry, Jr., Thomas Bancroft, Johnathan Pease, Isaac Gleason, Lot Killam, Rowland Thomas, James Haywood, Wm. Booth, Isaac Meacham, Jno. Bement, Jno. Bement, Jr., Thomas Geer, Jno. Fairman, Obadiah Abbe, Henry Abell, Joseph West, Samuel Merritt, Thomas Perkins, Jonathan Bush, John Pierce, and Isaac Morgan.

In 1683 the settlers had so increased that petition was made to the General



THE DIXON PLACE.

Court of the State of Massachusetts to be made a town by themselves. This petition calls for a "large tract of land for a township in this place, to run out eastward ten miles from the great river, there being so much barren land within the tract, piney and sandy, and also in consideration that the best of the land, near the great river, must yet be won for improvement by hard labor, and that said petitioners may have suitable proportions of land granted them, and such a tract as may capacitate the grantees to live comfortably thereon, that they may, through the Divine Benediction, be enabled to maintain and uphold the worship of God and His ordinances, discharge all public dues which will necessarily occur when the place shall be settled." Four days later, the general terms of this petition being granted by the Court of Massachusetts, the same appointed Major Jno. Pyncheon, Lieut. Thomas Stebbins, Mr. Samuel Marshfield, Dea. Jonathan Burt, Dea. Benjamin Parsons, or any three of them, Maj. Pyncheon being one, to be a committee who are fully empowered to manage all the affairs of said township till this Court take further order, and that the said town be free from all payment of the country rates for five years to come. This above-named committee appointed

John Pease, Senr., Isaac Meacham, and Isaac Morgan Selectmen, and to grant allotments to such as desired to settle there, lay out highways, etc., and, on the 7th of April, 1684, set apart land for the support of the ministry.

It was unanimously agreed by the committee, the grantees, and others to purchase land of the Indians. In pursuance thereof, an Indian deed was procured, wherein we learn that "I, Totaps, alias Nottotuck, the right Indian owner of all the land on the East side of the Connecticut river from Asnuntuck, alias Freshwater, to Umsquattauck at the foot of the falls," agrees to sell the land east of the Connecticut from Freshwater south to the brook called by the Indians Peggetoffee, now known as Boleyn's Brook, near the foot of the falls, and thence east eight full



WHERE CAPT. EPHRAIM PEASE LIVED.

miles to the mountains, in consideration of £25 to him in hand paid by Maj. John Pynchon, only reserving to himself a liberty of hunting on the common land in the woods, and catching fish in the rivers, yet not so as to exclude the English thereto.

Totaps acknowledges this instrument relinquishing all his interest in the premises March 16, 1688. The land north of Freshwater and thence east to the mountains had been previously conveyed by deed from the Indians in 1674.

The first town meeting was held in 1688, and John Pease, Jr., and Samuel Terry were chosen first selectmen of Enfield. At a town meeting in 1691, all inhabitants were ordered to attend town meeting for choice of officers, under penalty of two shillings fine. Thirteen attending such meeting shall be a legal meeting. This vote making a quorum of thirteen has never been annulled.

Among prominent men in the early history of the town was John Pease, Jr. A surveyor by profession, he surveyed and laid out the town plat and lots of proprietors, and is the person to whom the town is indebted for its present broad street. He was first captain of militia, and first representative to the General

Court of Massachusetts Bay, and indefatigable in his labors to advance the prosperity of the town. The place of his grave here is not known to-day. The tombstone of his son, Dea. Isaac Pease, who was among the first deacons of the Congregational Church, is in good condition in the southwest quarter of the cemetery.

The Boston Port Bill passed both houses of the British Parliament March 7, 1774. The rising "spirit of '76" in Enfield is best shown in the town records of those days not long after, July 11, 1774, "at a full and regular meeting of its voters and inhabitants." "The Resolves of the representatives of this colony, passed in May last, were read in this meeting and fully agreed to and acquiesced in, then further taking into serious consideration the present administration of the British Colonies by and under exertion of Ministerial and Parliamentary power, and par-



SITE OF THE COLLINS PLACE, "SYCAMORE HALL."

ticularly the surprising and unprecedented act of blocking up the port of Boston, &c., measures which have a direct tendency to the destruction of the British Empire; and, if persisted in, must inevitably terminate in the subversion of our Constitution and total loss of American freedom; and while our hearts glow with the most filial duty and affection to our rightful sovereign, Lord George the 3d, and to his illustrious house, we feel the warmest sentiments of gratitude to those worthy gentlemen whose noble and patriotic zeal has animated them with such wisdom and firmness to oppose the torrent of oppression rolling like a flood upon us; we cannot but express our deepest concern and grief that men who are descended from the natural and known enemies of the House of the Brunswick succession and who inherit the intrigue and malevolence as well as the honors and estates of their ancestors, should find such access to the Royal Ear, and by their subtlety and disguise alienate his Majesty's affections from his dutiful and loyal subjects; and while we consider that those who tamely submit to wear the shackles of slavery, or behold, with a supine indifference, all that is dear to us and posterity wrested from us by force, must be dead to the principle of self-preservation, callous to every feeling of humanity, and criminally regardless of the happiness and

welfare of unborn millions: therefore, Resolved unanimously, that a firm and inviolable union of the colonies is absolutely necessary for the defense and support of our civil rights, without which all our efforts will be likely to prove futile: that to facilitate such union, it is our desire that the committees of the several governments meet in a general convention at such place as shall be most convenient as soon as the circumstances of the distance and communication of intelligence will possibly permit, and the most effectual measures to defeat the machinations of the enemies of His Majesty's government and the liberties of America, is to break off all commercial intercourse with Great Britain and the West Indies, until all those oppressive acts of raising revenue in America be repealed." At the same meeting a committee of seven, consisting of Ephraim Terry, Edward Collins, Isaac Kibbe,



WHERE REV. ELAM POTTER LIVED.

Peter Raynolds, Ephraim Pease, Thomas Parsons, and Nathaniel Terry, were appointed to correspond and consult with other towns of the colony and to receive and forward contributions of money and provisions to those persons in Boston and vicinity distressed by the unhappy consequences of the Boston Port Bill. It was ordered that the doings of this meeting be published in the *New London Gazette*.

The people of Enfield were Abolitionists at an early day in the town's history, as appears by the following vote in town meeting, April 7, 1777, that Joseph Kingsbury, Capt. Daniel Perkins, and Ensign Eliphalet Terry be a committee to prefer a memorial to the Assembly in May next, praying that the Negroes in this state be released from their slavery and bondage. We find the same Capt. Perkins and Joseph Kingsbury appointed delegates from Enfield to the Convention held at Hartford on the first Thursday in January, 1788, for the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. Of the latter it is written, he was

"A strict supporter of the good old ways
Of Puritans in their most early days."

On March 31, 1777, the town voted to choose a committee to take care of the families of those that shall engage in the service of the war, in their absence, and

a week later voted to raise forty dollars to be paid out of the town's treasures to each able-bodied man that shall enlist into the Continental army, by the 1st day of May next, and the same sum to those already enlisted, to the number of forty-seven men.

But time passes. Other deeds and names equally worthy of mention in connection with those soul-trying days we must pass over for the present.

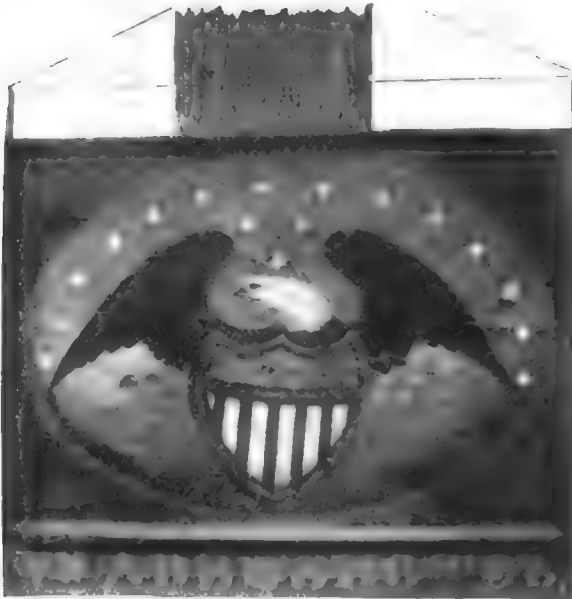
Let us turn and look northward from the eastern brow of the hill. In a spur, or rather continuation of Holyoke east, is seen, just above the summer foliage, a narrow, abrupt interval through which descends the road from Amherst, Mass., to Granby, the town this side the range. The eye follows with delight the undulating chain south to the swelling grandeur of Ball Mountain east, at whose foot is the village



WHERE REV. NEHEMIAH PRUDDEN LIVED.

at Somers Street, scarcely discernible. Hither rise the spires of Hazardville. A little to the northward we see the Shaker's once-venerated hill, and get a glimpse of some of the dwellings of that community clustering near. Going farther southward, from a low and seemingly leafy level near the mountain, is thrust up a white spire locating Ellington Street. Further on, in bold outline half-way up the hills, stands a part of the city of Rockville. The remaining portion is hidden from view in a mountain intervale. Up and down a half-hundred and more miles in unobstructed view the eye ranges where the hills, diminished by distance and lower levels, sink gradually out of view. Who that has contemplated this line of mountain and hill and wooded intervale when clothed in the dense greenery of summer, or sat down before it in days of "reddening leaf and sunny stillness," has not been uplifted by the sublimity of the great picture? Since David sang upon Judea's hills such scenes have had power to inspire the devout, patriotic, poetic heart. How much Connecticut hills and woods and vales and waters have aided in the development of spirituality, originality, and power in the soul of an Edwards, a Beecher, and a Bushnell, that wonderful trio of Connecticut-born men, who can tell? It was a thought of the latter that Hartford would be "a good place to be

in on the morning of the Resurrection." How far this sentiment was owing to the fact that there he would be near and with his "dear flock," whom, having adhered to the deep spiritual thinker so faithfully, he remembered with "imperishable affection," and how much to other local associations, we perhaps may not know. But from whatever cause — and we can but think the natural beauty of the location had something to do with it — a similar feeling regarding this place seems to have stirred in the breasts of several in the past of the same calling, who have labored in the church here temporarily, and have gone to other fields, to be brought and laid down here at last; — and for more yet to be brought a place is appointed. Like many another, the old First Church of Enfield has had its trials in regard both to doctrine and practice. Certain it is, also, that it has had pastors, some of whose remains lie here, who have been profoundly venerated and greatly beloved.



SIGN OF THE WM. ABBE HOTEL.

The large stars probably represent the number of states in the Union at time it was painted.

When a settlement in the Province of Massachusetts Bay became incorporated into a town it was required that the inhabitants hold public meetings for the worship of God on the Sabbath within its limits. As early as 1683 the (Springfield) committee went to Enfield to prepare the way for this worship, and having a meeting of the inhabitants, it was put to vote and passed that they would assemble on the Sabbath, forenoon and afternoon, except such as might go to Springfield or Suffield, and "carry on the day by prayer and singing and reading some good orthodox book till they might get a supply of minister."

The first minister of the Gospel settled in Enfield was Rev. Nathaniel Collins,

ordained in 1699. "The town, by a full and clear vote, expressed their willingness that Mr. Collins be ordained pastor of the Church of Christ here, and also the town do grant him twenty pounds in our pay, as we raise among us this to be paid yearly, and every year. The town also engage to clear and bring into improvement the land which the town formerly engaged on which the house stands, and also the town engages to give Mr. Collins twenty pounds towards furnishing his house, and also give £20 towards building a barn as soon as they can." Mr. Collins officiated as pastor twenty-five years, when, by a previous vote of the town at a legal town meeting held, he laid down the work of the ministry here. Mr. Collins was succeeded by the Rev. Peter Reynolds, who entered upon his work in November, 1725, and continued until his death, in 1768. The traditions which have come down to the present day, as well as the repeatedly recorded testimony of a noted* contemporary, seem all to confirm the graving upon his monumental

* Rev. Stephen Williams, Longmeadow, Mass.

table here:—amiable, pious, excellent. In 1769 Rev. Elam Potter was ordained, and continued pastor nearly seven years. Mr. Potter was greatly interested in improving and uplifting the condition of the Negro slaves, and made repeated tours into the Southern states on their behalf, and the memorial to the General Assembly of Connecticut, referred to on a former page, praying that the Negroes in this state be released from their bondage, was perhaps in part a result of his influence.

Among the closing years of our Revolutionary contest, November, 1782, was ordained Rev. Nehemiah Prudden. He was a man of great physical strength, stout and rotund in person, a ready appreciator of the humorous, possessed of strong and saving common sense. The great and central doctrines of the Gospel he understandingly believed and faithfully preached, is recorded on his pyramidal monu-



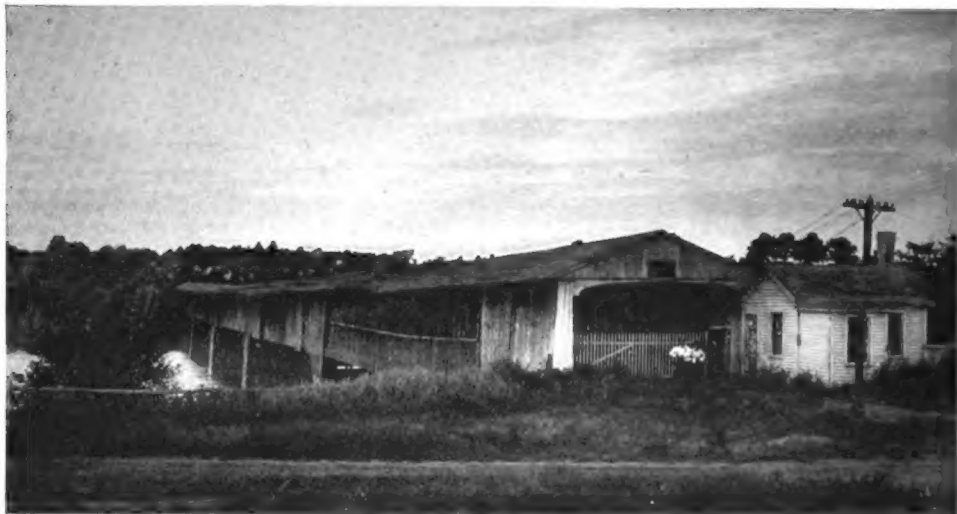
THE WM. ABBE HOTEL.

ment. Credible tradition informs us that when he died the bell tolled all day. Mr. Prudden was pastor here until his death, September, 1815. We may refer to him later.

The town of Enfield voted in 1683 to build a meeting-house 20 feet square with 10½ feet studs. It is supposed that this house stood near or in this cemetery. Twenty-two years later the town again vote to build a meeting-house, and Sergeant Terry and Zachariah Booth agree to build and finish the same. This house was forty feet square and stood in the street one mile to the south. The town "vote to seat this meeting-house" before they meet in it, and appoint four persons with the selectmen to "attend to that business." The foundations of this house were visible until quite recently.

We have tarried long upon this elevation because of the wide and enchanting outlook from it, and because so much of the early history of Enfield is written or suggested here. As we move south kaleidoscopic views may be seen on every hand. We notice among the homes in broad and attractive surroundings, "set

like a duck," as its owner once said, against the southern slope of the hill, the home of the late Col. A. G. Hazard, which has, until quite recently, been for many years unoccupied. The property is now sold and opened for summer boarders. Mr. Hazard died May 7, 1868. At his home have been entertained persons of all grades of eminence, from President Davis of the Southern Confederacy, who visited him as Secretary of War under Pierce's administration, down to men of quite common abilities, neighbors and friends. His life of great business activity and kindly beneficence is largely inwoven with the more recent history of Enfield and Hazardville. Further on, fronting some 100 rods on the street, is the site of the mansion once occupied by the late Orrin Thompson. The situation is elevated, commanding a wide view in nearly every direction. It is called Long View. From its summit is seen the proprietor's green mow-lot of a hundred acres. The



ENFIELD BRIDGE.

spacious, tasteful, shaded grounds in front remind one of the parks and residences of Old England. Its history is connected with the history of Thompsonville.

The town house near was the third meeting-house built in Enfield. The contract was made in 1772. Isaac Kibbe agreed to build and finish the house by New Year's day, 1775, for £1,100 lawful money, and receive as pay corn at two shillings, wheat at four, rye at three per bushel, pork three pence, beef two pence, bull beef excepted, tobacco, if raised in town, at eighteen shillings per 100 pounds. Any person that wished had the privilege of paying money instead of said articles. Capt. Ephraim Pease gave a bell to the church. On the occasion of building the new church opposite, in 1848, the old meeting-house was moved from its position in the street south of the town pump, its ends were reversed, and it was placed upon its present location. Quite a dust was raised when, in pulling down the old steeple, one section of rope gave way, suddenly forming a long winrow of men piled upon the turfless earth. The bell in the present beautiful church edifice is the same material that swung in the old one a century and more ago. The old wooden schoolhouse, moved from its site in 1869 to make room for the present brick one, was built about the close of the last century. William Dixon, father of the late Senator James Dixon, came hither from Killingly, in this state, while a young man, and taught the first term of school in one room of the building, his

brother at the same time teaching in the other room. Mr. Dixon married a daughter of Dr. Simeon Field, a resident physician, studied law, and practiced here until his death, in 1839. He was sent as Representative to the General Assembly, and was Town Clerk for twelve years. He built the bridge here which spans the Connecticut, by the aid of a lottery, in 1832.

Opposite what was once Mr. Dixon's home is one among the ancient houses of the town. A hundred years and more ago it was owned and occupied by Capt. Ephraim Pease, merchant and contractor in the time of the French war, a landholder and conspicuous man in those days. His daughter, Sybil, married Rev. Elam Potter, before mentioned, and he built a home for her on his right hand. It is a venerable manse to-day, very pleasantly located. For a third daughter, Agnes, the father built another home on his left hand, on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. Potter's successor, Rev. Nehemiah Prudden. A sapling put in earth by the latter's hand a century ago, a memorial of the birth of his first child, is the wide-spreading, symmetrical elm we see here to-day. Recently remodeled and repaired, this is a stately residence. The desirability and beauty of the location is rarely equaled. It is to-day the home of one of the business men of Enfield, Mr. Henry Abbe.

Associations of the past seem to cluster in this neighborhood. Opposite what was once the Potter parsonage, on the east side the street, was also once the home of the Rev. Mr. Collins, the first pastor of Enfield. The house he occupied is long gone. A prominent feature of the spacious, well-kept place is an ancient and venerable button-ball, probably the tallest tree in town, though shortened by decay from its past height.

Capt. Ephraim Pease was born in Enfield 1719, and died there in 1801. His grave is in the north part of the old cemetery. The house he owned and occupied dates as far back as early in the last century. Though there is no written record known to us to-day touching the matter, undoubted tradition affirms that here were quartered British prisoners of the Revolution, probably a part of Burgoyne's army, surrendered October, 1777. We are told how the hearts of the maidens of that olden time were taken captive by the appearance of the British Light Horse on our street and at the meeting-house. The south front chamber of this ancient residence is pointed out as the room where Washington rested for a night at the time referred to in a letter to a correspondent in Old England, wherein he writes of passing through Enfield and stopping at "the hospitable mansion of Capt. Ephraim Pease." This letter was seen and read by the late Senator James Dixon when in England on his wedding tour, and this fact he related to a reliable and long-time occupant of the Captain Pease homestead, who told it to the writer. This occurred while Washington was commander of the Continental army.

The young athletes of to-day come as comes the summer's eve, with bat and ball, to contest on "the green" under the shadow of the Prudden elm and over the site of the ancient church of two hundred years ago. Around it, Thomas Abbe's* drum re-echoed the first volley at Lexington. Within it, on a summer Sabbath of a generation before, July 8, 1740, came Jonathan Edwards, a young man not yet 37. We have been told finely and discriminatingly by a former well-beloved pastor of the old First Church of Hartford that the great preacher of that Sabbath afternoon "received conversion at the angle of God's sovereignty." With

* It is not absolutely certain that the drumming was done *here*. As related on page 372, the present town house was, by contract, to be finished Jan. 1, 1775, and in case it was then finished, the drumming was done in the street some 100 rods above. In the absence of exact records, there are good reasons for concluding that the town house was not finished until after 19th April, 1775.

a text (Deut. 32: 35) and theme in keeping with that thought, delivered in those days and at a time both of religious declension and awakening, by a mind and imagination so powerful and so richly furnished, and enforced by the energy of an intense earnestness and a pure and Godly life, it perhaps was not strange that both the discourse and the occasion became historic, even beyond the sea. We are informed by one who was present* that "before the sermon was done there was a great moaning and crying out throughout the whole house — 'What shall I do to be saved? Oh! I am going to Hell,' etc. The cries were piercing and amazing — so that the minister was obliged to desist. After some time of waiting the congregation was still, so that a prayer was made, and after that we descended from the pulpit and discoursed with the people — some in one place and some in another — and, amazing and astonishing — the power of God was seen — and several souls were hopefully wrought upon that night. 'And oh! the cheerfulness and pleasantness of their countenances that received comfort — oh, that God would strengthen and confirm.' We sang an hymn and prayed and dismissed the assembly."

From this point we have a view of the old "Town Street" north and south, whose sections together embrace the distance of a mile. The picture over the river here, as everywhere throughout our borders, is a perennial joy. Enfield need never lack the inspiration afforded by its natural situation and its generally worthy and patriotic history. To one who has perused the latter and studied the former for a lifetime, with that ever-increasing delight which the perfect work of the Creator can inspire, come oft and again the words of Walter Scott —

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said
This is my own, my native land?"

* The Rev. Stephen Williams, D.D., Longmeadow, Mass., 1716-1782.